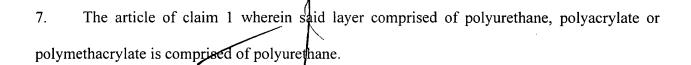


- 1. An article comprising a substrate having on at least a portion of its surface a multi-layer coating comprising:
- a layer comprised of polymeric material on at least a portion of the surface of said substrate;
- a layer comprised of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium/titanium alloy compound on said layer comprised of polymeric material; and
- a layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate on said layer comprised of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium/titanium alloy compound.
- 2. The article of claim wherein said compound is selected from a nitride, an oxide, a carbide, and a carbonitride.
- 3. The article of claim 2 wherein said compound is a nitride.
- 4. The article of claim 3 wherein said layer comprised of zirconium nitride, titanium nitride or zirconium/titanium alloy nitride is comprised of zirconium nitride.
- 5. The article of claim 3 wherein said layer comprised of zirconium nitride, titanium nitride or zirconium/titanium allog nitride is comprised of titanium nitride.
- 6. The article of claim 2 wherein said compound is a carbonitride.



- 8. The article of claim 3 wherein said layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate is comprised of polyurethane.
- 9. The article of claim 2 wherein said polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polymethacrylate, polystyrene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, styrene-acrylonitrile, alkyd resin, polyethylene, and blends and copolymers thereof.
- 10. The article of claim 1 wherein said article is comprised of metal.
- 11. The article of claim 10 wherein said article is a vehicle wheel cover.
- 12. The article of claim 1 wherein said article is comprised of metal alloy.
- 13. The article of claim 12 wherein said article is a vehicle wheel cover.
- 14. The article of claim 1 wherein said article is comprised of plastic.
- 15. The article of claim 14 wherein said article is a vehicle wheel cover.

- 16. An article comprising a substrate having on at least a portion of its surface a multi-layer coating comprising:
- a layer comprised of polymeric material on at least a portion of the surface of said substrate;
- a layer comprised of zirconium, titanium or zirconium/titanium alloy on said layer comprised of polymeric material;
- a layer comprised of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium/titanium alloy compound on said layer comprised of zirconium, titanium or zirconium/titanium alloy; and
- a layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate on said layer comprised of zirconium compound titanium compound or zirconium/titanium alloy compound.
- 17. The article of claim 16 wherein said compound is selected from a nitride, an oxide, a carbide, and a carbonitride.
- 18. The article of claim 17 wherein said compound is a nitride.
- 19. The article of claim 18 wherein said layer comprised of zirconium nitride, titanium nitride or zirconium/titanium alloy nitride is comprised of zirconium nitride and said layer comprised of zirconium, titanium or zirconium/titanium alloy is comprised of zirconium.

- 20. The article of claim 18 wherein said layer comprised of zirconium nitride, titanium nitride or zirconium/titanium alloy nitride is comprised of titanium nitride and said layer comprised of zirconium, titanium or zirconium/titanium alloy is comprised of titanium.
- 21. The article of claim 17 wherein said compound is a carbonitride.
- 22. The article of claim 16 wherein said layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate is comprised of polyurethane.
- 23. The article of claim 18 wherein said layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate is comprised of polyurethane.
- 24. The article of claim 16 wherein said polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polymethacrylate, polystyrene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, styrene-acrylonitrile, alkyd resin, polyethylene, and blends and copolymers thereof.
- 25. The article of claim 16 wherein said article is comprised of metal.
- 26. The article of claim 25 wherein said article is a vehicle wheel cover.
- 27. The article of claim 16 wherein said article is comprised of metal alloy.

- 28. The article of claim 27 wherein said article is a vehicle wheel cover.
- 29. The article of claim 16 wherein said article is comprised of plastic.
- 30. The article of claim 29 wherein said article is a vehicle wheel cover.
- 31. An article comprising a substrate having on at least a portion of its surface a multi-layer coating comprising:
- a layer comprised of polymeric material on at least a portion of the surface of said substrate;
- a sandwich layer comprised of alternating layers selected from the group consisting of zirconium compound, titanium compound or zirconium/titanium alloy compound on said layer comprised of polymeric material; and
- a layer selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate on said sandwich layer.
- 32. The article of claim 31 wherein said compound is selected from a nitride, an oxide, a carbide, and a carbonitride.
- 33. The article of claim 32 wherein said compound is a nitride.

- 34. The article of claim 33 wherein said sandwich layer is comprised of alternating layers comprised of zirconium nitride and titanium nitride.
- 35. The article of claim 32 wherein said compound is a carbonitride.
- 36. The article of claim 31 wherein said layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate is comprised of polyurethane.
- 37. The article of claim 31 wherein said polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polymethacrylate, polystyrene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, styrene-acrylonitrile, alloyd resin, polyethylene, and blends and copolymers thereof.
- 38. The article of claim 31 wherein a layer comprised of zirconium, titanium or zirconium/titanium alloy is disposed intermediate said layer comprised of polymeric material and said sandwich layer.
- 39. The article of claim 38 wherein said compound is selected from a nitride, an oxide, a carbide and a carbonitride.
- 40. The article of claim 39 wherein said compound is a nitride.

- 41. The article of claim 40 wherein said sandwich layer is comprised of alternating layers comprised of zirconium nitride and atanium nitride.
- 42. The article of claim 39 wherein said compound is a carbonitride.
- 43. The article of claim 38 wherein said layer comprised of polyurethane, polyacrylate or polymethacrylate is comprised of polyurethane.
- 44. The article of claim 38 wherein said polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of polycarbonate, polyester, polymethacrylate, polystyrene, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene, styrene-acrylonitrile, alkyd resin, polyethylene, and blends and copolymers thereof.

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